



For Immediate Release

Contact:

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U.S. Marshals Warn of Phone Scams

Houston, Tex - The U.S. Marshals are warning the public of an ongoing jury duty telephone scam.

It begins when the scammer, posing as a U.S. Marshal or other law enforcement officer, calls a victim to advise that he or she has missed federal jury duty but can avoid arrest by paying a fine immediately.

The scammer provides information, titles, and badge numbers of legitimate law enforcement officers or court officials, names of federal judges and courtroom addresses in an attempt to make the scam credible. Scammers will leave voicemails and have set up fake voicemail prompts and inboxes to further convince the victims of their legitimacy.

The public is advised that this is a scam, and if a person receives a jury duty-related call, they should not provide any personal identification information or money to the caller. Federal courts do not call prospective jurors and ask for money or personal identifying information over the telephone.

Anyone who feels they have been a victim of a "Jury Duty Scam" phone call and suffered financial loss should report it, with any available Caller ID information by using the website www.ic3.gov and filing a police report with your local law enforcement agency.

Anyone who has received a "Jury Duty Scam" phone call, but not suffered loss should report the calls.

Additional information about the U.S. Marshals Service can be found at <http://www.usmarshals.gov>.

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